

GUIDE TO BARNARD CASTLE, &c.

BARNARD CASTLE is a market town and parish, on the banks of the river Tees, in the County of Durham. "Castle Barnard," saith old Leland, "standeth stately upon Teese." It was founded in the twelfth century by Bernard Baliol, whose father, Guy, came over with the Conqueror, and received the barony of Gainford and other possessions in the North as the reward of his services. From Bernard Baliol the castle and town derive their name. Barnard Castle is accessible by rail from all parts of the kingdom, being upon the main line between Newcastle and Liverpool, and at the point where that line is intersected by the railway crossing the country from the ports of Durham and North Yorkshire to those of Cumberland and the West of Scotland. The town, according to the census of 1881, has 4,544 inhabitants. In the vicinity of the railway station, in a commanding position, stands a farmhouse, named Bede Kirk—once a sacred edifice, as may be seen from the ancient lancet lights in the east wall, and the piscina, which still remain. It is probable that the town or village of Marwood surrounded or stood near to this ancient church, previous to the inhabitants settling under the walls of the adjacent castle. The town consists of a thoroughfare, about a mile in length, with well-built streets branching off on each hand. The large open space commencing near John Street, is Galgate, or, as formerly denominated, *Gallowsgate*. At the head of this street, where the roads cross, were dug up, about eighty years ago, stepping-stones and a broad pavement, by many considered to be the remains of the market-cross; but, from the name of Gallowsgate, and the old appellation of *Hankeslave*, or Hangslave, in the ancient records, it is probable that this was the place of execution, and these vestiges of the engine used for decapitation in feudal times. Each side of the highway in Galgate was, in 1873, planted with trees, which form an avenue ornamental to the street; and during the present year (1884) a long-needed improvement will be completed by the planting and laying-out as a shrubbery, of the waste ground at the head of Galgate. The weekly market is held on the Wednesday, when the Market-place presents a bustling and animated scene. There is a good show of butchers' meat, and an excellent corn market, besides ranges of stalls for the exhibition of miscellaneous goods. At the bottom of this street is the Town Hall, an octagonal building, encircled with rails and supported on pillars, frequented on market-days by the vendors of butter, eggs, poultry, &c. On the summit is a cupola, with bell and vane. The visitor is directed to view the shot-holes in the vane, dexterously perforated in 1804, by two

marksmen—the one a volunteer in the Teesdale Legion, and the other a gamekeeper of the Earl of Strathmore; they fired from opposite the door of the Turk's Head Inn, a distance of more than one hundred yards. From an inscription on the front, it appears that the building was erected in the year 1747, at the expense of Thomas Breaks, Esq., a native of the town. In Newgate (which branches eastward from the Market Cross) the Post Office is situate. This street also contains the Vicarage, a neat edifice, in the Elizabethan style; the Freemasons' Hall; and the Free Christian Church. Some property in Newgate and land in various parts of the Township belong to the old charitable institution of St. John's Hospital, the revenues of which, added to those of the Flounders Trust at Yarm, are devoted to the maintenance of a valuable educational establishment at Barnard Castle, termed the North-Eastern County School. The school and its appurtenances will form a noble range of buildings; and the foundation-stone was laid by Earl Fortescue, on the 6th November, 1883. The site is near the Newgate Springs, on the road to Rokeby.

THE BOWES MUSEUM.

Just beyond the boundary of Newgate, on the left, stands a palatial edifice, entitled "The Bowes Museum," the foundation stone of which was laid by the late lamented Mrs. Bowes (Countess of Montalbo), in 1869. The structure, in the magnificence of its appearance, has few equals in this country. The style of the building is the French Renaissance. The south or principal front is three hundred feet in length. The central dome is carried to the height of one hundred and fifty feet; the rest of the front has an elevation of eighty-five feet. East and west are wings, the length of each being one hundred and thirty feet, the front being set back thirty-eight feet within these wings. Under the basement are twelve cellars, each forty-five feet by fifteen feet, the walls and arches being of solid masonry. On the basement floor there are seven rooms, exclusive of the principal staircase and entrance-hall. The entrance-hall is forty-two feet square by thirty-one feet high, the walls being of polished freestone. The main doorway is twenty-four feet six inches high, by twelve feet six inches wide. The height of the principal staircase is fifty-six feet, the width thirty-two feet. The steps are fifty-four in number, of red Aberdeen granite, hanging out of the wall eight feet. The landings are of stone from Craigleith-quarries, Edinburgh, most of which are eleven feet by ten feet, and six-and-a-half inches thick. Twelve polished red and grey granite columns support and ornament portions of the staircase. On the first floor there are seven rooms, one of which is forty-two feet square and twenty-five feet high. On the second floor there are eight rooms, one of these also being forty-two feet square by twenty-five feet high. The number of rooms in the third or attic storey is fifty, with dormer and other lights more than one hundred in

number. In the central dome is an observatory. The number of lights on the basement floor is sixty-four; on the first floor, sixty-eight; on the second floor, seventy. The three picture galleries, in the north front, are, together, two hundred feet long, by forty-five feet high; they are lighted from the roof, by means of glass fitted in iron; each light is forty-one feet six inches by twenty feet, with a rise of fifteen feet. The sculpture galleries are of the same dimensions as the picture galleries. The main walls of the building are three feet thick, of solid ashlar; the dividing walls are of the same thickness; the solids to the angles are eight feet thick. In each wing there is a staircase, composed severally of one hundred and two steps of Craigleith-stone. Two of the apartments in the building have each twelve windows. The cantilevers, corbels, semicircular and pedimented windows, are elaborately and richly carved. Some of the beams of timber used in the floorings, are forty-nine feet long by fourteen inches square. The beams for the floor of the picture galleries are forty-eight feet by eighteen-fourteen inches; they are strengthened with iron flitches three-quarter inch thick. Adjoining the mansion there are in course of formation ornamental waters, fountains, gardens, shrubberies, &c. From the summit of the building there are extensive and picturesque prospects. Westward, looking over the town of Barnard Castle, appear Deepdale, Baldersdale, Lunedale, and the diversified country bounded by Mickle Fell and the hills beyond the High Force and Caldron Snout. Southward are the verdant slopes of the Tees, backed by the heights of Arkendale. Eastward the eye ranges over a vast district, with the church of Kirby Hill and the groves of Aske Hall in the middle distance, and Eston Nab, Roseberry Topping, and the Cleveland Hills on the horizon. Northward are the purple heath-covered fells near the sources of the river Gaunless. The inhabitants of Barnard Castle may feel a degree of pride in having this, one of the grandest buildings in the kingdom, erected within their confines; and the long-honoured name of Bowes will derive additional lustre from this further contribution to the attractions of Teesdale. Mrs. Bowes did not live to see her magnificent work completed, but died, amidst deep and general regret, on the 9th of February, 1874. The *Teesdale Mercury*, after referring to the demise of Mrs. Bowes, said, "We have authority to state that Mrs. Bowes, in her lifetime, made arrangements by which the whole Museum and Park, with all the valuable collection of paintings and works of art and curiosity, gathered for the purpose by Mrs. Bowes and her husband during many years, will finally be given to the public. Such a donation to the town of Barnard Castle cannot fail to be of great advantage to it; and the inhabitants of that place and the neighbourhood will in future years remember with gratitude the Foundress of 'The Josephine and John Bowes Museum and Park,' within the boundaries of which a chapel will, according to the expressed wish of the lamented deceased, be erected, where her remains will ultimately

repose." The Museum was built by Mr. Kyle, contractor, after the designs of Mr. J. E. Watson, architect, Newcastle. Mr. Harley is the Curator of the Museum and grounds.

THE PARISH CHURCH.

Returning by Newgate, the next object of interest is the Parish Church, dedicated to St. Mary. It was built about the year 1130, by Bernard Baliol. The original edifice was an oblong nave, with long chancel. In 1261, William de Roundel, vicar of Gainford, added a tower to the church of Barnard Castle. This tower was surmounted by a leaden spire, which remained till the year 1774, when the spire was removed, and the tower raised to the height of sixty feet. In 1380 the north transept was added to the church. About the year 1480 extensive alterations were made in the edifice. The north aisle was widened and a north porch erected: the south transept was also widened, and the entire roof of the church was re-constructed and embattled, the walls being raised to form a clerestory. From this period, up to the beginning of the present century, the church underwent numerous repairs and alterations, most of which were conceived in the worst possible taste. In 1868 the church had fallen into so ruinous a condition, that a thorough restoration was demanded, and carried out. The new tower contains a musical peal of eight bells. It may be worthy of mention that the original peal was four in number, the oldest of which (said to have been brought from Eglistone Abbey) was of excellent tone, and had inscribed round its rim the words, "*Campana Sancte Trinitatis et omnium Sanctorum.*" The whole were removed in 1823, and a new peal of six bells, by Mears, of London, hung in their stead. The peal was completed to eight in 1866. A valuable chiming clock, the gift of the late W. Watson, Esq., of Spring Lodge, Barnard Castle, is placed in the tower. In the church there are several good stained-glass windows. In the south transept, the burial-place of the distinguished family of Bowes, of Streatlam Castle, is marked by a brass tablet. The mural monuments scattered throughout the church were, after the rebuilding of the tower, placed on the walls of the basement storey of that edifice. There is a fine monument to the memory of Sir John Hullock, Kt. (a native of the town), one of the barons of the Court of Exchequer, who died suddenly at Abingdon, in the year 1829, when on circuit; also a tablet to the memory of his lady, who survived him upwards of twenty years. There is a marble cenotaph to the memory of Captain Webb, of the 17th Lancers (brother of the then proprietor of the Westwick estate in the parish of Barnard Castle), who fell in the renowned charge of the "six hundred," at Balaklava, on the 25th October, 1854. There is also a cenotaph to the memory of the Rev. George Watson, A.B., a native of Barnard Castle, who, having served as Chaplain in the Duke of Wellington's army in the south of France, in

1814, afterwards accompanied the expedition to America under the command of General Ross, and died on his passage home, near Dauphin Isle, in the Gulf of Mexico, on the 28th March, 1815, in the 27th year of his age. The tower likewise contains an ancient and curiously-carved baptismal font of Tees marble. In the north transept of the church is preserved the recumbent effigy of Robert de Mortham, vicar of Gainford at the beginning of the fourteenth century, who here founded a chantry. Within the last twenty-five years the churchyard has been surrounded with a substantial iron railing, and planted with trees, &c. No burials have taken place here since the year 1860, a public cemetery, divided into three enclosures, for the Established Church, the Protestant Dissenters, and the Roman Catholics, having in that year being formed in the neighbourhood of the town.

The street leading southward from Newgate is on a steep descent, and is termed the Bank. In the Bank there is an ancient tenement, called "Blagrove's," which is connected with the name of Oliver Cromwell. In Sanderson's contemporary MS. it is stated that "On the 24th of October, 1648, Lieutenant-General Oliver Cromwell arrived at Barnard Castle, on his way to Richmond." He was met by a deputation of the principal inhabitants (whose names are given in the MS.), who accompanied him to his lodgings, and entertained him with "burnt wine and short cakes." Tradition says that he was lodged at "Blagrove's." Next day he continued his journey. At the foot of the Bank is Thorngate, the most ancient part of the town. At the end of Thorngate a commodious iron foot-bridge spans the Tees, giving access to the Startforth bank of the stream. The first foot-bridge erected here was destroyed by a flood on the 9th of March, 1881, when two men, named William Thwaites and Richard Gargett, who were unhappily upon it at the moment, were carried away and drowned. The beautiful church of Startforth crowns the adjoining acclivity. Startforth derives its name from *Street-ford*, being at the point where the Roman Road from *Lavatrae* (Bowes) to *Vinovium* (Binchester) crossed the Tees. To the right, at the top of Thorngate, the street called Bridgegate leads to the bridge. The Bridge, from an inscription on a large square stone let into the wall, "E. R. 1569," is supposed to have been rebuilt in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The extensive shoe-thread manufactory of Messrs. Ullathorne and Co., stands near the bridge, on the Yorkshire side.

THE CASTLE.

Leaving the end of Bridgegate, you approach the Castle, by the Scar Walk (leading to the upper part of the town), on the top of high rocks overhanging the Tees, and under the walls of the fortress. On reaching Baliol's Tower, a door gives access to the interior. The view from the summit of this tower comprehends every beauty of "river, wood, and mountain." The following

extract from Sir Walter Scott's *Rokeby* supplies a vivid picture of the scene :—

“ Far in the chambers of the west,
The gale had sighed itself to rest ;
The moon was cloudless now and clear,
But pale, and soon to disappear.
The thin grey clouds waxed dimly light
On Brusleton and Houghton height ;
And the rich dale, that eastward lay,
Waited the wakening touch of day,
To give its woods and cultured plain,
And towers and spires, to light again.
But westward, Stanemore's shapeless swell,
And Lunedale wild, and Kelton Fell,
And rock be-girdled Gilmanscar,
And Arkingarth lay dark afar ;
While, as a livelier twilight falls,
Emerge proud Barnard's bannered walls.
High crowned he sits, in dawning pale,
The sovereign of the lovely vale.”

The Castle was built 1112-32, by Bernard Baliol, on land that had been given to his father, Guy, by William Rufus, in 1098. It was called by the founder's name, and the protection afforded by its strong walls soon led to a town springing up around it, to which certain privileges were granted by his son, a second Bernard Baliol, in a deed which is still preserved in the Town Hall. In the reign of John, Hugh Baliol stoutly espoused the King's cause against the Barons. At this time Alexander of Scotland, passing by Barnard Castle, “surveid it about, to espie whether it were assailable of any side ; and while he was thus occupied, one within discharged a cross-bow and strake Eustace Vesey (which had married his syster) on the forehead with such violence, that he fell dead to the ground, whereof the King and his nobles conceived great sorrowe, but were not able to amend it.” John Baliol (died 1268), the founder of Baliol College, Oxford, married Devorguilda, great-niece of William the Lion, King of Scotland, in right of whom (failing the direct royal line) his son, a second John Baliol, was raised to the Scottish throne, in 1292, in preference to his rival, Robert Bruce. In the following year Baliol renounced his fealty to Edward I. of England, and all his English estates were confiscated ; a loss which was followed by that of his crown in 1296. In 1307 Edward I. made over Barnard Castle, with all the confiscated estates of the Baliols, to Guy Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick. From this family they passed into that of Neville, on the marriage of Anne of Warwick to Richard Neville, the King-maker, whose daughter Anne brought them again into the hands of the Crown on her marriage to Richard III., then Duke of Gloucester. Richard commenced the foundation of a college here, but his death at Bosworth Field prevented the accomplishment of the project. The site of this college, according to tradition, was at the south-west corner of Newgate. In 1569 the Castle (then in possession of the Crown) underwent its

memorable siege, when it was held for eleven days by Sir George Bowes against the Earls of Westmorland and Northumberland, the leaders of the rebels, in the "Rising of the North." The insurgents, who numbered more than five thousand, twice attempted to scale the walls, but were each time beaten back with loss. They then, at a safe distance, invited Sir George Bowes and his garrison to come out and fight them on the open ground, using words which, as a rude rhyme, are still remembered in the North of England:—

"Coward, a coward o' Barney Castle,
"Darn't come out to fight a battle."

Sir George Bowes was too good a general to risk his slender force of six hundred men in so unequal an encounter; but, at night, his brother (Capt. Robert Bowes), at the head of a small body of cavalry, made a sally from the northern gate. They penetrated to the besiegers' entrenchments, slew a number of the rebels, and returned with considerable booty in the shape of horses and cattle. Want of water, however, at last compelled the garrison to surrender, under composition to depart with "arms and ammunition, drums beating and colours flying;" and, leaving the castle, they took the road into Yorkshire, where they joined the Earl of Sussex, the Royalist general, and the rebellion was soon afterwards suppressed.

In 1629 the castle was sold to Sir Henry Vane, from whom it descended to the Duke of Cleveland. The ruins show the remains of four courts, enclosing six-and-three-quarter acres. The west or stronger side crowns a rocky cliff, eighty feet above the river. The walls of the great or south court are in good condition. Between this and the rest of the castle is a deep moat, and beyond it a wall forty feet high. The second or north-east court is in like manner separated by a moat and wall from the two smaller courts which lie on its west side. This is now an orchard. The third court, entered by a bridge from the second, lies on the east side of the castle, between the great court and the fourth court or citadel, from which it is also separated by a moat. The walls of both are tolerably perfect, and of great height and thickness. A small oriel window, overlooking the Tees, still bears the "boar" of Richard III. carved within, and corroborates the tradition of his residence here, during his stay in the north as Duke of Gloucester, to overawe the Lancastrians. At the north-east angle of this court is the great tower, known as "Baliol's Tower," about fifty feet high, and one hundred and fifty feet above the river, the principal feature in almost every view of the castle. Here the very flat stone vaulting of the first floor, thirty feet in diameter, and the staircase winding half round the tower, deserve notice. The area of the castle includes Brackenbury's Tower, formerly used as a dungeon; it has a large arched vault, with cells, and an opening at the top for letting down provisions. The inner and outer moats, with the sluices, and the situation of the

drawbridges, may yet be traced. The principal entrance to the castle is from the King's Head Hotel, in the Market-place. The gardens of the hotel occupy a considerable portion of the space within the castle walls. Mr Smith, the late lessee, laid out these gardens with great taste, and so as not to interfere with the ancient remains or the characteristic features of the spot. From platforms on the walls there are exquisite views of the surrounding scenery.

The King's Head Hotel, Barnard Castle, is named in Dickens's *Nicholas Nickleby*. It will be remembered that it was at this inn Newman Noggs recommended Nicholas to call, for there he could obtain a "glass of good ale."

The town contains most of the institutions common to the age—Mechanics' Institute, Horticultural and Benefit Societies, Board of Health, &c. The inhabitants are supplied with pure water from a spring about five miles from the town. Here are also Wesleyan and Primitive Methodist Chapels; Congregational, Friends, Free Christian, and Roman Catholic places of worship.

Barnard Castle was the headquarters of the Durham Militia from 1759 to 1853, in which year the force was divided into three regiments, two of infantry and one of artillery. The headquarters of the first regiment were continued at Barnard Castle; the second regiment was established at Durham (since transferred to Newcastle); and the headquarters of the artillery were fixed at Hartlepool.

THE FLATTS WOOD AND MARWOOD CHASE,

with their beautiful and picturesque walks, form the chief attractions of Barnard Castle. The Wood is comprised within Marwood Chase, the old Park appertaining to the Castle. The walks, with the permission of the Lord of the Manor, were constructed upwards of fifty years ago, and are kept in excellent condition. The walks commence close to the ruined fortress of Barnard Castle, and the visitor, proceeding down the Scar, and passing Baliol's Tower (or entering at the higher gate near the Woodman's cottage), takes his way by the riverside, the path following the line of the old park-wall. Crossing a wooden bridge—spanning the Percy Beck near its junction with the Tees—the pedestrian continues his walk under the foliage of ancient oaks. A mile from Barnard Castle the railway viaduct is gained. Let the visitor ascend the winding path to the level of the bridge, the roadway of which is more than one hundred feet above the river, and gaze upon the surrounding landscape. Looking down the stream, he has, on his left, a grove of trees, rising from the water's edge, to an elevation as high as that on which he stands, and reaching to the Castle, the ruins of which are plainly visible. Beyond are fields and more woods, the background being composed of heath-covered hills. Descend once more to the riverside, and still proceeding in the same direction, you arrive at what is

called the "Rock Walk." Here the path almost encroaches upon the river, and is bounded on the other hand by a rocky precipice. The river sweeps boldly out from amidst the overhanging foliage, the platform at the head of the stone steps, up which the path is conducted, commanding a fine prospect of the stream, downward, as far as the railway-viaduct. At some points the precipice is adorned with trees growing from the openings, at others the bare rock gleams through the leaves. On the opposite side of the Tees stands the farmhouse of Towler Hill, which was long popularly (but mistakenly) said to be the site of a battery by means of which Oliver Cromwell destroyed the fortifications of Barnard Castle during the Civil War. The path still keeps the brink of the river, until you gain the mineral spring known as the "Spa," the water of which is said to be efficacious in various disorders. A little further on there is a deep pool in the river, called the "Scotchman's Pool," the story concerning which is that, at an early date in the annals of Barnard Castle, a band of Scotch marauders were, near this spot, surprised by a party sent from the Castle in pursuit of them. In the conflict that ensued all the Scotchmen were slain but one, and he, unhurt by a flight of arrows discharged after him, would have escaped by swimming the river, had he not been overtaken and pulled down by bloodhounds as he neared the further shore. You soon reach one of the pleasant glades which are so frequent in this Chase. There is a break in the Wood, a few yew trees, of great age, alone displaying their dark-green attire. The park-wall is here in good preservation, and may be examined with facility. Ascend the hill, and you come out into the fields, near one of those neat white-washed farmhouses everywhere to be seen on the Teesdale estate of the Duke of Cleveland—His Grace being the successor of the feudal Barons who once ruled the whole of this wide tract. The path traverses several fields, then crosses a wood-fringed brook, in which there is a pretty waterfall; and goes on in the direction of the stupendous rock rising from the riverside, high above the encircling trees, and known as "Percymyre Castle." Tale and legend have united in making this route interesting. You are now opposite to the village of Cotherstone, and a fragment of wall representing the castle formerly existing there, may be seen upon a headland at the confluence of the Tees and the Balder. Beyond are the heights called Gulesborough and Shuckleborough, both of which figure in local records. On your right, crowning a verdant eminence, is the farmhouse of High Shipley, once a hunting seat of King James II. Cotherstone Castle was the abode of the Fitzhughs, Lords of Romalldkirk, the last of whom is said to have been killed by falling, with his horse, over Percymyre Castle, when returning at night from hunting in Marwood. You have now gained the western limit of Marwood Chase; and may either cross the Tees by means of the bridle-bridge at Cotherstone, and return on the Yorkshire bank of the river; or proceed onward to Egglestone,

by way of Barnley, thence to Romaldkirk, and there take the train to Barnard Castle.

Amongst the other paths in the vicinity of the town, mention may be made of the Cleveland Walk. This path is conducted through a part of the Flatts Wood, near the course of the Percy Beck, which here runs between high banks, the stream being twice crossed by rustic bridges. In the beck, about fifty yards from the walk, and just below the Woolhouse (which is placed on the opposite height), there is a waterfall deserving of a visit: it is a miniature likeness of the Caldron Snout, framed in foliage. The walk passes under the Percy Viaduct, and joins the Egglesstone turnpike-road at Harmire Bridge, whence another path leads across the fields to the Red Well—a mineral spring of considerable repute. The Cleveland Walk has also a branch communicating with the railway-station.

DEEPPDALE.

The pedestrian will not fail to explore Deepdale from Barnard Castle. Leaving the town by the Yorkshire route, he will, after crossing the bridge and turning to the right, diverge from the high road half-a-mile from the town. He will there take the footpath to the left, near the mill, and pass the rifle-range of the local Volunteers. Proceeding, he will speedily find himself in the midst of enchanting scenery. The path is carried along the banks of a rivulet, which, issuing from the moors, runs sparkling along to its confluence with the Tees—under high and rugged cliffs, through sunny glades, or canopied by woods. Deepdale may be followed to the Catcastle rocks, which lift their heads above the surrounding trees, at the distance of three miles. Near them is a fine iron viaduct on the South Durham and Lancashire Railway, two hundred feet high, crossing the beck and ravine. A little further up the dale there is a picturesque waterfall. Leaving this point, by a footpath through the fields, the visitor passes a fishpond—a large sheet of water—and soon gains the pretty rural village of Lartington.


LARTINGTON HALL,

the seat of the Rev. Thomas Witham, has within the last few years undergone considerable alterations, and a new range of buildings has been added. The whole has been executed with taste and discrimination, and the edifice may worthily rank among the principal mansions in the North of England. In the Cemetery, near the Hall, there is a Mortuary Chapel, beautifully adorned, and containing some exquisite sculptures.

EGLISTONE ABBEY

is a little more than a mile from Barnard Castle, on the Yorkshire side of the Tees; and may be reached by a pleasant

footpath through the Demesnes—a large open space of pasturage belonging to His Grace the Duke of Cleveland, and where permission is liberally given to the youth of the town to hold their outdoor sports—and across the adjacent fields, to the Abbey Bridge. This bridge, an elegant structure of one arch, built in 1771, spans the River Tees, and the views from it, either up or down the stream, are very fine. The Tees here runs in a deep and narrow rocky channel, overhung with foliage. The ruins of the Abbey stand on rising ground to the right, after crossing the bridge, at the junction of the Thorsgill-beck with the Tees. It was erected for Premonstratensian Canons; and, between the years 1195 and 1208, Philip of Poitou, Bishop of Durham, granted to the inmates the Manor of Egglestone, in the county of Durham, seven miles further up the river. The abbey was dedicated to St. Mary and St. John the Baptist; and, at the Dissolution, its revenues were valued at £65 5s. 6d. It has consisted of a nave, without aisles, broad transepts, with eastern aisles, and chancel. The greater part is Early-English, date about 1203. There are some tomb-slabs—composed of polished limestone, or “Tees Marble,” from the bed of the adjoining river,—the inscriptions upon which are yet perfect. One bears the words, in a fine square letter—

T. Rokeby,  Jesu, for yi (*thy*) passions ser (*sair*),
 Bastarde. haþe metsi of yi sínfull her (*heir*).

A massive altar-tomb, to the memory of Sir Ralph Bowes, of Streatham (whose remains were interred here in 1482), has in modern days been removed to Rokeby, where it stands in the grounds near Mortham Tower. Sir Walter Scott, in his poem of *Rokeby*, places the tragic death of Oswald Wycliffe and Bertram of Risingham in the church of this Abbey. The ruins are the property of Robert Ambrose Morritt, Esq., of Rokeby Park, and are carefully and reverentially tended. The adjoining dell of Thorsgill, with its glades, thickets, and rippling brook, has been illustrated by Creswick and other artists. The pedestrian may return to Barnard Castle through the fields on the Yorkshire bank of the Tees (the path commanding a fine prospect of the distant western hills), and gain the town-street by means of the Thorngate footbridge; or he may prolong the excursion to

ROKEBY.

From the Abbey Bridge, the journey (two miles) may be taken to Rokeby and Greta Bridge, either by the highway or the footpath skirting the Tees. Rokeby Hall is only shown in the absence of the family; but the grounds are always open on making proper application. Guides may be had at the Morritt Arms Inn, Greta Bridge. The Hall contains a valuable library, some good tapestry, numerous pictures of interest, and (in the

entrance) several fragments and inscriptions from the Roman camp at Greta Bridge. The old church at Rokeby stood near the house, and its foundations and one or two tombstones still remain. It was pulled down, about 1760, by Sir Thomas Robinson, who built the present church at the distance of a mile from the Hall, close to the highway from Greta Bridge to Bowes. The poem of *Rokeby*, by Sir Walter Scott, was commenced early in 1812, and was published in 1813. Sir Walter visited Rokeby for the first time in June, 1809, and was then greatly impressed by its scenery. In December, 1811, he communicated the design of the romance to his friend Mr. Morritt. In the autumn of 1812 Scott revisited Rokeby, and under Mr. Morritt's guidance minutely examined the scenery of the poem. The result was that "admirable fidelity of the local descriptions which gives its greatest charm to *Rokeby*." Entering the grounds from Greta Bridge the visitor is conducted along a path by the left side of the Greta, winding onwards through woods and between steep rocks to its junction with the Tees.

"The open vale is soon past o'er ;
 Rokeby, though nigh, is seen no more ;
 Sinking amid Greta's thickets deep,
 A wild and darker course they keep,
 A stern and lone yet lovely road,
 As e'er the foot of minstrel trode !
 Broad shadows o'er their passage fell,
 Deeper and narrower grew the dell,
 It seem'd some mountain, rent and riven,
 A channel for the stream had given,
 So high the cliffs of limestone grey
 Hung beetling o'er the torrent's way,
 Yielding, along their rugged base,
 A flinty footpath's niggard space,
 Where he, who winds 'twixt rock and wave,
 May hear the headlong torrent rave,
 And like a steed in frantic fit,
 That flings the froth from curb and bit,
 May view her chafe her waves to spray,
 O'er every rock that bars her way,
 Till foam-globes on her eddies ride,
 Thick as the schemes of human pride,
 That down life's current drive amain,
 As frail, as frothy, and as vain !"

The spectacle at the Junction is wonderfully fine—

"'Twas a fair scene ! the sunbeam lay
 On battled tower and portal grey,
 And from the grassy slope he sees
 The Greta flow to meet the Tees,
 Where, issuing from her darksome bed,
 She caught the morning's eastern red,
 And through the softening vale below
 Roll'd her bright waves in rosy glow."

The River Greta is crossed at the Dairy Bridge—a rough-hewn ivy-covered structure of stone—and the path returns on the

right bank. A flight of steps leads down the cliff to "Bertram's Cave," and to a haunted piece of ground—

"The 'lated peasant shunned the dell,
For superstition wont to tell
Of many a ghastly sound and sight,
Scaring its path at dead of night."

Here, too, is the precipice scaled by Bertram of Risingham. Mortham Tower is placed on high ground above the Greta, and is a "peel" or Border fortress of the fifteenth century, with some outbuildings and additions of the time of Queen Elizabeth. The whole is in good preservation, and is occupied as a farmhouse. On the stairs of the tower certain blood stains are pointed out, said to be those of a lady who was killed here by a jealous husband or lover. The arms of the Rokebys, "three rooks" on a shield, appear both on the inner and outer walls. In a glade near Mortham Tower is the tomb of Sir Ralph Bowes, of Streatlam, brought hither from Eglistone Abbey by Mr. Morritt. It is thus mentioned in the poem:—

"South of the gate an arrow flight,
Two mighty elms their limbs unite,
As if a canopy to spread
O'er the lone dwelling of the dead;
For their huge boughs in arches bent
Above a massive monument,
Carved o'er in ancient gothic wise
With many a 'scutcheon and device."

Behind the inn at Greta Bridge are the remains of the Roman camp to which reference has been made. The visitor may hence prolong his walk up the side of the Greta, and past Brignal old church—which stands near the river—to Brignal Banks, connected with the well-known words of the song in *Rokeby*:—

"O Brignal banks are fresh and fair,
And Greta woods are green,
And you may gather garlands there
Would grace a summer queen."

Here is the cave in which Guy Denzil and his band of robbers held their wild revels. A little way beyond, about three miles from Rokeby, a rustic bridge crosses the Greta, giving access to the hamlet of Scargill on the other side. Near this bridge, and close to the stream, is a copious chalybeate spring. At Scargill there is a peel-tower, in some respects resembling that at Mortham. Near Scargill, Sir Talbot Constable, Bart., has a commodious shooting lodge. The visitor may return to Barnard Castle from this point by way of Moorhouses and the turnpike road; or he may, if not wearied with his excursion, pursue the footpath for three miles further up the Greta to the village of Bowes, where he touches upon the railway, and may shape his course as he pleases.

BOWES,

successively the site of a Roman Camp and a Norman Castle,

possesses considerable claims to attention. As the station of *Lavatrae*, it was held by the Romans for more than three hundred years; and evidence of their occupation still exists. Bowes Castle is placed on rising ground, and has been encompassed by a deep ditch. The only part now left is a square tower—the keep of the original structure. The Church, which stands eastward of the fortress, is a plain Norman edifice, recently restored. It is dedicated to St. Giles. In the Churchyard is the grave of “Edwin and Emma,” whose ill-fated passion furnished a theme for the beautiful and affecting ballad written by Mallet. The real names of the unfortunate lovers were Roger Wrightson and Martha Railton. For the incidents we refer our readers to the verses themselves, which in this neighbourhood are as “household words.” In the year 1848, the late Frederick Dinsdale, Esq., LL.D., author of the *Teesdale Glossary* and other works, erected a simple but tasteful monument to the memory of “Edwin and Emma,” outside the west-end of the church. The village of Bowes consists of one long street built on each side of the highway. Here is a grammar school, founded by William Hutchinson, Esq., of Cragg, near Lartington, about 1699. “God’s Bridge” (so called by the country-people), near Bowes, is of limestone, naturally constructed, the river Greta running under it. Bowes Moor, consisting of thousands of acres, is celebrated in the annals of grouse-shooting. The genius of Charles Dickens is associated with Bowes, for in this village (by popular acceptance) some of the scenes depicted in *Nicholas Nickleby* were enacted.

THE HIGH FORCE.

The best way to reach this celebrated waterfall is to go by rail from Barnard Castle to Middleton-in-Teesdale (10 miles), thence by ’bus to the High Force Inn (4 miles). On the way to Middleton the pleasant villages of Cotherstone, Romaldkirk, and Mickleton are passed, whilst Egglestone, with its fine woods, lies within sight on the Durham side of the Tees. Middleton is a neatly-built market-town, the headquarters of the London Lead Company, and the town and neighbourhood are well-known for their beautiful scenery. After proceeding from Middleton, the Winch Bridge may be visited by a path through the fields near Bowlees. Departing from Bowlees you pass a succession of larch-plantations, and soon draw up at the High Force Inn. This house, for some weeks in the autumn of each year, is occupied by the Duke of Cleveland or his friends as a shooting-box. Proceed by the footpath from the Inn, along the wooded banks, and on the precipitous margin of the river, until you reach the fall. Descend a rustic flight of steps, and view the High Force from the bottom. Here much of the sublimity that impresses the spectator from above is lost, but is exchanged for the most chaste and appropriate beauties. The perpendicular rocks on each side are fringed with underwood, and here and there a single yew or mountain-ash rises out of the fissures.

The river falls gracefully before you : and a remarkable castle-like rock—"the palace of the Genius of the river"—pushes its stupendous front forward with the tumbling stream. On the other side of this rock, in time of flood, is another fall, only inferior in breadth to the principal one. After seeing the cataract below, go to the top of the rocks, and this is by far the best situation for a first sight of the Fall. You look down upon the water, rushing, almost under your feet, over a precipice—the summit of which, whereon you stand, being seventy-eight feet from the base, and the direct height of the Fall seventy-two feet,—in one sheet of foam, shaking the rocks beneath you, and stunning the ear with its deafening roar. There was a lamentable occurrence at the High Force on the 24th of June, 1880. Two tourists—Mr. G. H. Stephenson, of Gateshead, and Mr. Luke, of Stobb Hill, Morpeth—had gone upon the rock in the centre of the river to view the fall. Here they were surprised by one of the sudden floods common to the Tees, and surrounded by the rising water. In the attempt to rescue them by means of a rope, Mr. Luke was saved; but the rope breaking whilst Mr. Stephenson was being drawn through the water, the unfortunate man was instantly swept over the fall, and drowned.

THE CALDRON SNOOT.

At Langdon Beck, three miles further up the dale, you strike off for the cataract of Caldron Snout, which is yet three miles distant. On reaching the waterfall, from the track along the side of the river, you will be arrested by the grandeur of the sight. Directly before you, the river is hurled headlong down, from rock to rock, in a deep recess, through the declivity of a mountain. Here you command, at one view, the whole of the cataract; the course of its wildly-dashing stream not being in a direct line, but in many a devious bound. Ascend the cliff to a wooden bridge, which you will see at a startling height, and in the most romantic position, near the top of the Fall. It is a single plank, but broad and firm, with a railing on each side. The stand in the centre is sublime indeed! Not wholly divested of personal danger, you may look downwards, directly through a shaggy cleft, on the turbulent waters, wetting you with their spray, and shooting in their impetuous career, white as snow, and swifter than an arrow, beneath your feet. The length of the cataract, from the commencement of the declivity to the foot of its last precipitation, is five hundred and ninety-six yards, and its perpendicular height one hundred and twenty-two feet. A little above the bridge the river is a deep lethargic pool, called the "Weel," its banks being a dead level for nearly two miles; and from this circumstance the name of the cataract, the "Caldron Snout," probably originates.

The bus returns from Langdon Beck to Middleton-in-Teesdale, in time for the evening train departing eastward.

STREATLAM CASTLE,

the seat of John Bowes, Esq., is about three miles east of Barnard Castle. The Castle stands in a park, which abounds in deer, and is picturesquely wooded in parts with fine old timber. The mansion has a low situation, probably for the sake of the moat which formerly surrounded it, and of which traces are still to be seen on the north-east of the building. The present castle, which was new fronted and modernised by Sir William Bowes (1708-10), with yellow freestone from the quarries of Stainton and Lingbury, has a stately and solid appearance. Its south front, in the Italian style, which rises from a terrace, and consists of a centre with projecting wings, balustraded at the top, and surmounted by two cupolas, is one hundred and twenty-six feet in length. The original castle was probably built by the Baliols, and has been the residence of the ancient family of Bowes since the beginning of the 14th century. In the various apartments are many fine and valuable paintings, and other objects of art.


OTHER PLACES OF INTEREST.

Two-and-a-half miles from Winston railway-station, or six miles from Barnard Castle, eastward by road, is the pleasant town of STAINDROP, with its beautiful old Church, which is well worthy of a visit.

RABY CASTLE, the seat of His Grace the Duke of Cleveland, stands in a spacious park, adjoining the town of Staindrop. The Castle is a stately edifice, and was principally erected by John de Neville in the year 1379. In modern times many additions and alterations have been made in it, and it contains some noble rooms, with numerous fine paintings. In one apartment is Hiram Power's celebrated statue of the "Greek Slave," which was purchased by the second Duke of Cleveland for £1,800.

WYCLIFFE CHURCH, five miles east of Barnard Castle, is picturesquely situated on the Yorkshire side of the Tees. In the adjacent rectory is preserved a portrait of John Wycliffe, the great Reformer, who was born in the neighbourhood. At Whorlton, near Wycliffe, the river Tees is spanned by an elegant suspension-bridge.

BARNINGHAM.—This village is two miles beyond Rokeby, and is pleasantly situated on high ground, commanding extensive views. Barningham Hall is the property of Sir F. A. Milbank, Bart., M.P.

 For further information respecting Barnard Castle and the neighbourhood, the visitor is referred to the "Handbook" advertised on the next page.

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